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Comment Of The Day

TURN FOR THE BETTER

A NUMBER of recent events point to the fact that after all there are elements of goodwill in the world today as we rapidly approach Christmas.

The Cyprus emergency has ended, even though the actual fighting ceased last February. But while the formal ending of the emergency is only a matter of formality, the way is now clear for independence.

Diplomatic relations have been re-established with Egypt after three years of estrangement. Both these emergencies were linked together as Cyprus became a British base following the withdrawal from Egypt and later became the jumping off point for the invasion of the Suez Canal.

It will, however, take many years to obliterate the memories of the years of strife in the Eastern Mediterranean, but the fact that both moves have been made is all to the good and there is little to stand in the way of future mutual understanding.

THERE are also signs that the Arab world is doing some re-thinking about the Communists and looking to the West for assistance and friendship. This is a movement which should be encouraged.

Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union have been making slow but sure progress towards permanent banning of nuclear tests, which is another reason for cheerfulness. These Powers are agreed on how to make a treaty work. Although a pact has not yet been signed at least the organization will be there and ready when the time comes.

THEN again there is the change in Mr. Khrushchev's attitude over the past few months which gives rise to a feeling of hope. A year ago there did not appear to be the least chance of reaching agreement on Summit talks. Now the Russian leader is willing to go to the peak at any time provided that the approach is made in a reasonable way.

Admittedly there is still a long way to go. The ugly facts about Hungary remain and the French are determined to explode their nuclear device, but these difficulties also existed a year ago.

It is generally agreed that things have taken a turn for the better and provided goodwill exists on all sides there is no reason why things cannot be even better still.

U.S. TROOPS IN JAPAN

Stationing Of Bases Made Legal By Court

Tokyo, Dec. 16.

The Supreme Court ruled today that American troops and bases in Japan are legal. It held they do not violate Japan's "no-war" constitution.

The court, in a sweeping decision leaving Japan free to retain its Western military ties, also in effect held that Japan's own self-defence forces are fully legal.

It also ties down any right of Japanese courts to overrule international treaties made by a government such as the U.S.-Japan Security Pact which provides for the stationing of American troops here.

The Japanese Socialist Party condemned the decision but the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party hailed the court's move.

Mr. Inejiro Asanuma, Secretary General of the Socialist Party, said the decision was a "political judgment" given under pressure of the government of Premier Nobusuke Kishi.

He said that if the court had judged according to the spirit of Japan's "no war" constitution, it would have had to uphold the Lower Court decision. Mr. Shiro Kawashima, Secretary-General of the Liberal-Democrats, said, however, that the decision could not have been otherwise.

He said it would put a stop to the "unrest" following the decision of the Lower Court on March 30, which ruled that U.S. troops were in Japan unconstitutional. —AP and UPI.

Queen's Xmas Message Will Be Shorter

London, Dec. 15. Queen Elizabeth's Christmas Day message to the country and Commonwealth is likely to be shorter this year on her doctors' advice, a Buckingham Palace spokesman said today.

This year, the British Broadcasting Corporation will broadcast the message at 0900 GMT (5 p.m. HKT) instead of the traditional 1500 GMT (11 p.m. HKT). —Reuters.

Typhoon Gilda Nearing PI

A Hongkong Observatory spokesman said this morning that typhoon Gilda has been pinpointed 150 miles east south-east of Manila.

It is moving west at about 11 knots, he added.

Maximum winds of up to 132 m.p.h. have been reported.

The spokesman said at this stage the typhoon was too far away to be able to predict how Hongkong would be affected.

Two U.S. Carriers Adrift Break Tow

London, Dec. 16.

Two U.S. aircraft carriers, Mission Bay and Guadalcanal, being towed to Japan for scrapping have broken adrift in mid-Pacific, according to a message received here early today from Honolulu and Lloyd's shipping intelligence.

The 820-ton Dutch tug Elbe is also in trouble in a heavy gale and is asking for assistance according to the message from Lloyd's agent in Honolulu.

The message said that the United States command in Honolulu had reported that the two old American aircraft carriers, Mission Bay and Guadalcanal which the Elbe was towing to Japan for scrapping had broken adrift and the tug itself needed assistance probably because its propeller had been fouled by a wire.

The tug's position was given as in mid-ocean between Hawaii and Wake Island.

In San Francisco, a U.S. Coastguard spokesman said all three vessels were believed drifting helplessly.

A United States navy ship the Richard S. M. Edwards was racing to the scene but was not expected to reach the area until Thursday.

The spokesman said he had few details of the mishap. —Reuters.

India Can Now Make A-Weapons

New Delhi, Dec. 16.

The Hindustan Times reported today that India now had the capacity to make atomic bombs and weapons.

It said this was announced by the atomic energy chief, Dr. Bhabha, to an informal consultative committee of Parliament last night.

The Hindustan Times said Dr. Bhabha, while emphasizing India's capacity to make atomic weapons, had quoted from Prime Minister Nehru's earlier statements that India would use atomic energy for peaceful and constructive purposes and not for war. —Reuters.

AN 'INVASION' OVER THE TELEPHONE

New York, Dec. 16.

"One, two, three, four, testing," a telephone installer intoned monotonously. "One, two, three, four, testing."

Tedium finally overcame him. He switched his line of patient.

"Space ship one, space ship one, come in space ship one. This is flotilla leader. I am now over Washington. Do you read me, space ship one?"

Back came a retort from another workman:

"I read you, flotilla leader. We are now approaching New York. First wave now in control of Sheridan Square."

A quick of adjoining electrical circuits, however, sent their mock messages out over telephone lines in five city exchanges.

Startled subscribers called police.

"I have spacemen on my telephone," yelled one woman.

Police solved the riddle and passed the way of complaints to the Telephone Company.

From the latter came an edict: "From now on they stick to saying 'one, two, three, four, testing.'"

"But if they get bored with that they can say 'four, three, two, one, testing.'"

Frozen Cars For Finland



With her cargo of cars frozen to her deck, the German freighter Bleichen from Hamburg docks in the south harbour at Helsinki, Finland, on December 10. Thousands of pounds of ice and snow hangs from the rigging and over the gunwales after her voyage across the storm swept Baltic in sub-zero temperatures.

Possible Danger Of An Economic Split In Europe

Paris, Dec. 15.

British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Selwyn Lloyd, today warned the ministerial council of the North Atlantic Alliance of the danger of an economic split in Europe that might lead to a military and political split.

Mr. Lloyd was speaking of the controversy between the six-nation common market, to which France belongs, and the "outer-seven" group of free trade nations to which Britain belongs.

Mr. Lloyd said the United Kingdom welcomed the creation of the European Economic Community—the Common Market—and understood the reasons why it had come into being.

But he said he hoped it would not make the mistake of developing into an exclusive organization, and hoped that the seven would help bring the six together in a United Europe.

Most Fruitful

Mr. Lloyd told the afternoon closed session of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Finance that disarmament appeared to be the most fruitful subject for negotiation at the forthcoming East-West summit conference.

But he said that Germany, linked with the problem of Berlin, should also be a subject for discussion.

He said there had been the beginning of a world détente, and this had to be consolidated. The reasons for a change in attitude by the Soviet Union, he believed, lay in the realization that nuclear war meant large-scale destruction and also in the great changes within the Soviet Union itself, including the drive for higher living standards.

But he said the West should not let its guard down.

Mr. Lloyd said that the new phase in Soviet tactics, though a move in the right direction, did not go far enough. He called for closest possible co-ordination within the alliance in the new period.

Differences

He conceded that there were arguments and differences on means and methods, but he said these were inevitable in a democratic alliance.

Speaking of the Allied military effort and the question of whether to organize it in more closely knit fashion or on a national military basis, Mr. Lloyd said that Britain for its part endorsed the position as set forth by the U.S. Secretary of State, Mr. Christian Herter.

Mr. Lloyd said the heads of Western governments who are to meet in Paris shortly would have to make four decisions about any invitation to Mr. Khrushchev to attend the East-West meeting. He said they would have to decide on the place where the conference was to be held, the date, working methods to be applied, and the general tone of the note sent.

Mr. Lloyd said the invitation should indicate the purposes of the conference in general terms. He said the West should try, before the summit meeting, to obtain a Soviet definition of the term 'peaceful coexistence.' —AFP.

BRITAIN'S COTTON INDUSTRY RECOVERY

London, Dec. 15.

Daily Express Financial Editor Frederick Ellis gave three reasons tonight why cotton has made a tremendous recovery in Britain.

He gives these reasons:

- The rush to scrap plants under the Government compensation plan has produced a flood of orders on fears that less plant will mean longer delivery dates.

- The strength of raw cotton prices.

- The long hot summer Britain experienced which cleared a pipeline of stocks as women hurried for cool clothing.

He writes: "A quick check in the mill towns tonight revealed Lancashire was carrying the fattest order books it has known for years. Many mills are working overtime and in some cases delivery dates went into the second half of 1960."

Outlaws Behead Priests

Rome, Dec. 15. Two Roman Catholic priests were beheaded when their missionary station at Bafang, in the French Cameroons, was attacked last November by hundreds of outlaws, the Eides news agency reported here today.

The agency said another priest and a nun were injured during the attack.

Bafang is about 110 miles from the coast and only a few miles from the British Cameroons.

Outlaws have been increasingly active in the neighbourhood. Last August they killed another priest and a few days before the recent attack they kidnapped a 16-year-old girl from the mission. —Reuters.

UAR AND JORDANIAN JETS CLASH

Tel Aviv, Dec. 15. Four United Arab Republic MIG jet fighters clashed with four Jordanian British-built Hunter jets in a 10-minute air battle over the Syro-Jordanian border yesterday, according to reports reaching here today.

The reports brought by travellers from Jordan who arrived here today said neither side suffered any casualties. Censorship in Jordan and the UAR was said to have banned publication of reports on the battle, the causes of which were not explained.

According to one source, Jordan lodged a protest with the UAR authorities regarding the incident. —Reuters.

Boac Authorised To Cut Fares On Far East Routes

London, Dec. 15.

The Minister of Aviation, Mr. Duncan Sandys, said tonight that he was authorising the British Overseas Airways Corporation to cut their fares on certain routes to the West Indies, Africa and the Far East.

The new economy rates would be between 10 and 20 per cent below the existing charges. Mr. Sandys, who was replying to a House of Commons debate on steps to allow Boac and its sister state-owned corporation British European Airways, to borrow more money, said he was consulting colonial authorities and airlines concerned about the exact level of the fares to be charged.

At the same time they would consider the time at which the new scheme should be introduced.

No elaboration of the Minister's statement about economy fares was forthcoming from Boac tonight. Their only comment was "We welcome an announcement from the Minister on this subject."

FLAG CARRIERS

The Minister said he did not intend to do anything to undermine the position of Boac or Bca.

They must continue to be Britain's principal flag carriers on the main air routes of the world.

"But there is scope also for the independents to expand. I believe there is an honourable place in our system for both the corporations and the independents," he said.

The bill being debated would permit Boac's borrowing limit to be increased by £20 million to £180 million and Bca's by £35 to £95 million.

The new limits were expected to cover requirements over the next four years.

The bill was given an unopposed second reading—approval in principle. —Reuters.

Defected RAF Man Returns

London, Dec. 15.

A Royal Air Force officer who defected to East Germany three years ago returned to London today.

Anthony Maynard Wright went to Berlin in December 1956, after contacting the Soviet Embassy here, the British Air Ministry said, and afterward, radio Berlin broadcast statements attributed to the British officer bitterly denouncing British policy over Suez and Cyprus.

Last November, Wright, then in Moscow, asked the British Embassy to be allowed to return.

An official spokesman said Wright had been cashiered for "absence without leave," but added that he did not expect other sanctions would be taken against him. —AFP.

Indicted

Washington, Dec. 15.

Fourteen present and former guards at the Florida State Prison were indicted on Tuesday on charges alleging they shackled or chained prisoners to the bars of their cells, sometimes without food or clothing, for periods ranging from 24 hours to a week or more. —AP.

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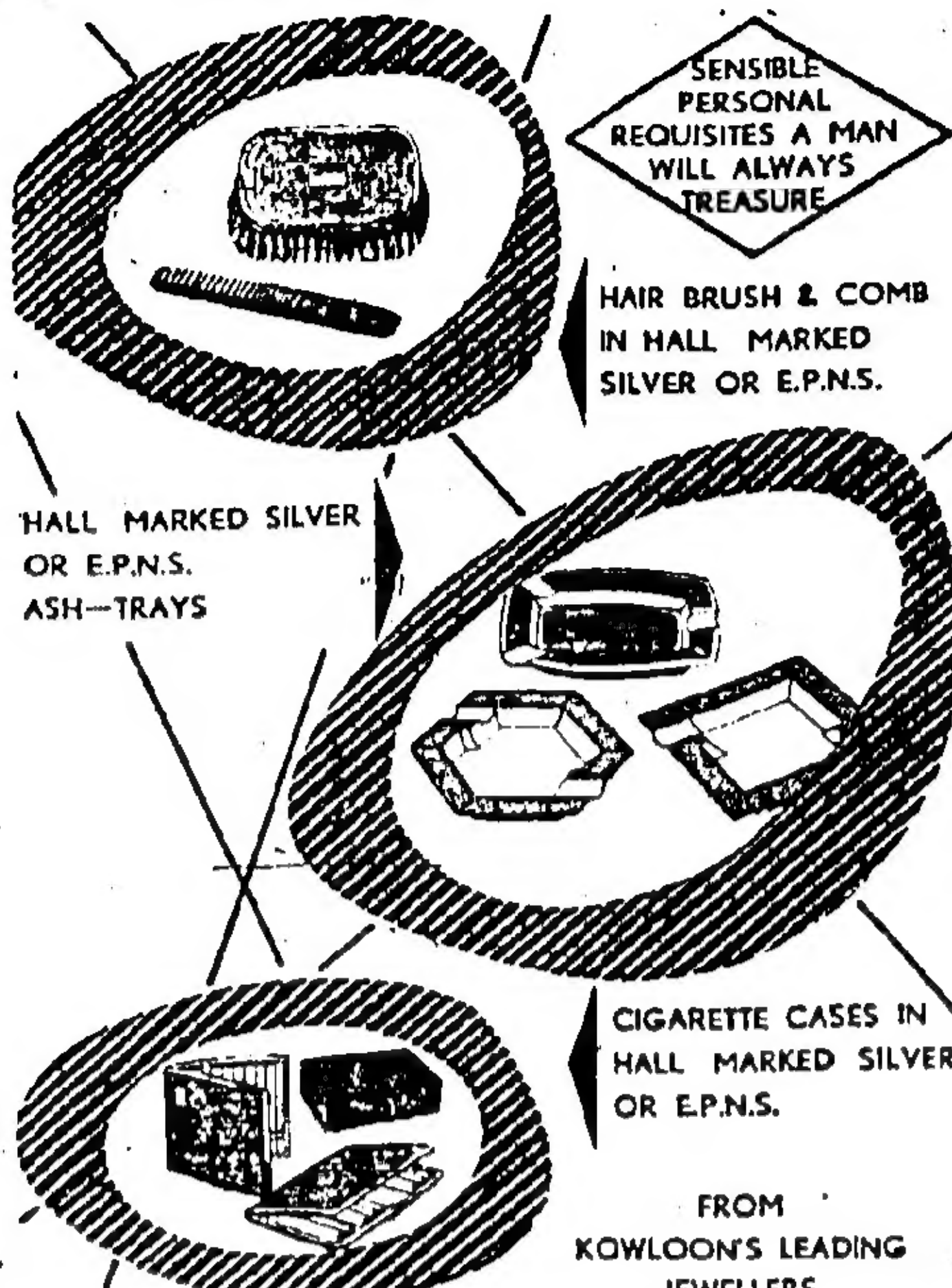
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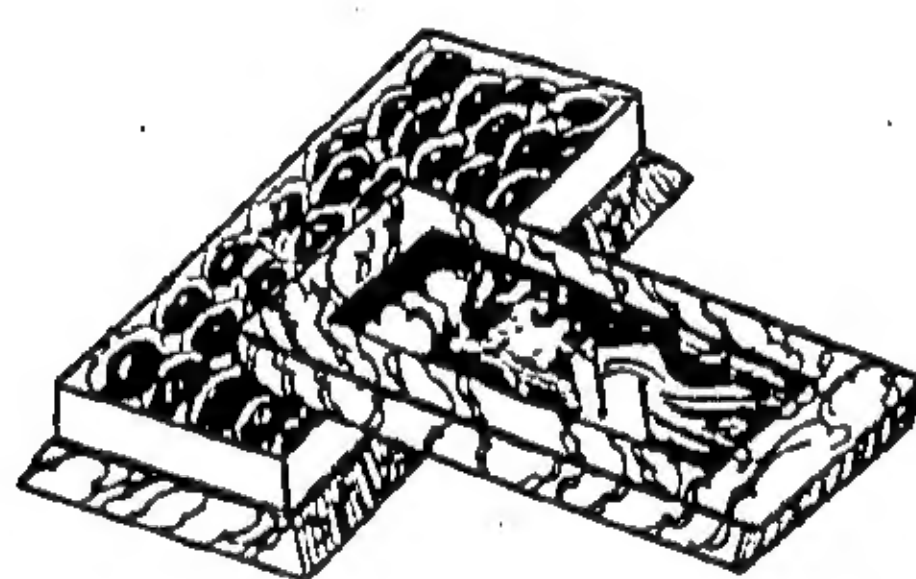
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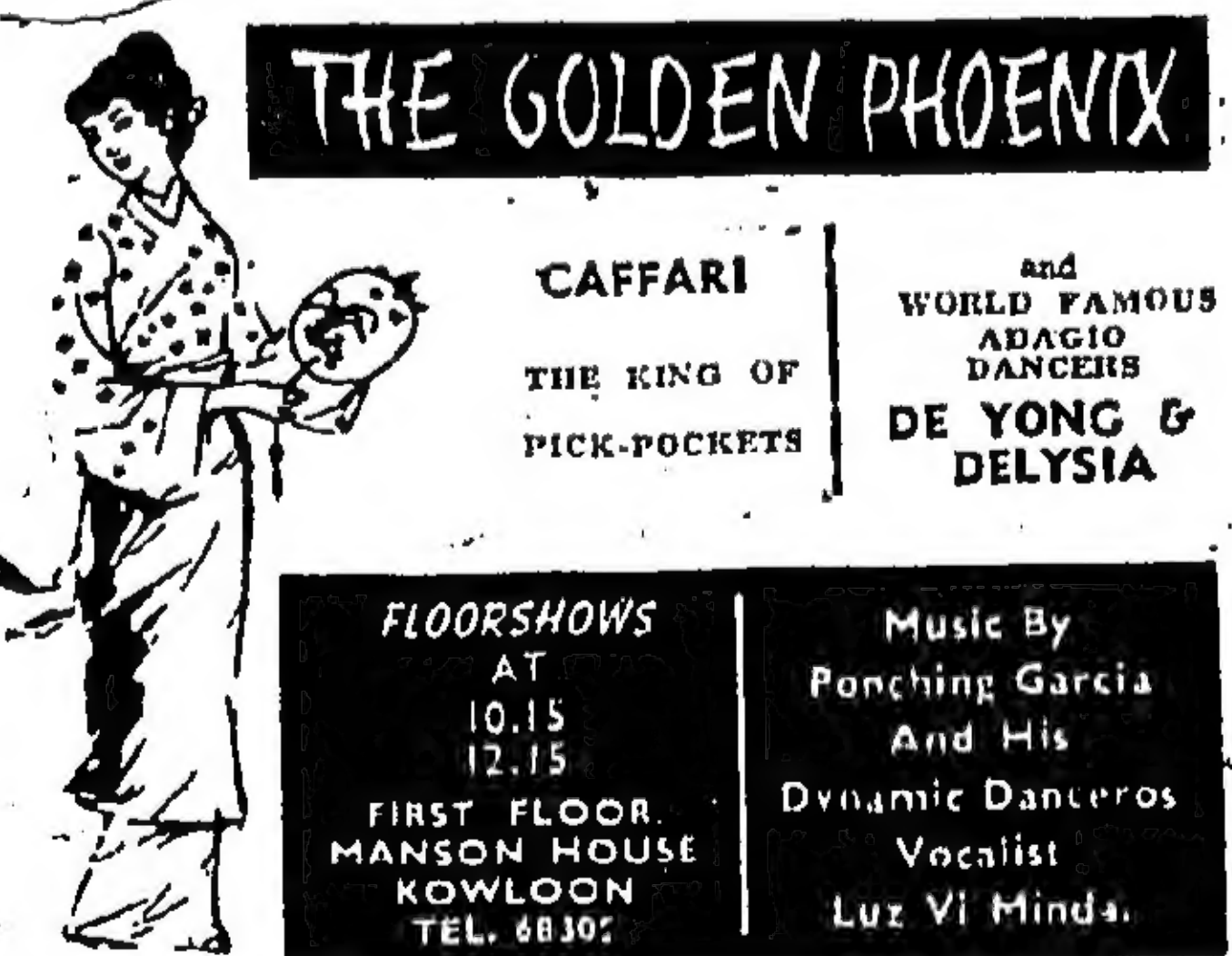
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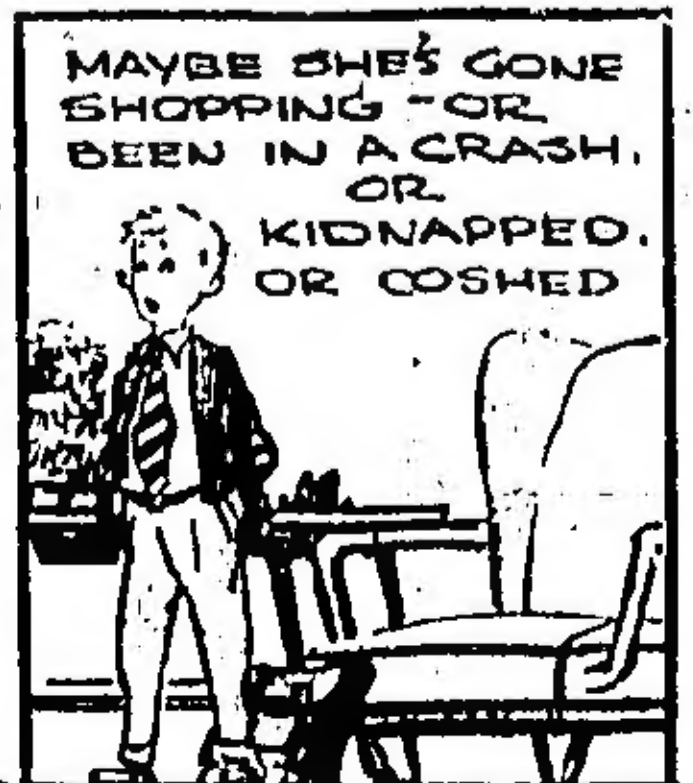
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UNIVERSITY HOAX

Schoolboys Victims Of Most Successful Joke For Years

Oxford, Dec. 15.
More than 50 scholarship-seeking schoolboys were tonight revealed as victims of Oxford University's most successful hoax for several years.

Montgomery Sets Record

London, Dec. 15.
Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery's World Refugee appeal on June 7, raised £54,450, a record for peacetime radio or television appeals. It was announced here today.

Youth Gets Three Years For Killing

Glasgow, Dec. 15.
William Livingstone, a 19-year-old youth whose father was murdered when he was young, was sent to prison for three years here today for killing a two-year-old girl.

Defending Counsel said Livingstone's home background was "a depressing and perhaps squalid slum area."

He had been living with the child's mother and hit the child to quieten it.

The prisoner pleaded guilty to killing the child.—China Mail Special.

They were interviewed by a fake panel of students pretending to be professors.

Questions were asked about their academic and spare time pursuits. These included: "Are you interested in women?" Many of the schoolboys were then referred for further questioning to the "college psychiatrist" who sat apart dressed in a white coat.

None of the boys suspected a hoax. Their interviews were all gowned and solemn.

The victims were staying at Brasenose College for interviews in connection with open scholarships. They were called to attend the bogus interviews by an announcement on the college notice board.—China Mail Special.

Gliders

A feature of this section is the emphasis being laid in China on glider training.

"Jane's" says that with the help of Polish experts, "large gliding establishments" have been set up at Tohan-Tia-Kou and Shen-Lang and a central gliding school has been organized by Polish instructors at An-Yan.

Licence-production of gliders of Polish origin began in these factories in 1955/1956 and "substantial numbers" of four types have been delivered since.

"Jane's" reports that a Chinese glider design office was formed towards the end of 1956 and the prototype of the "first glider of original design" flew in May of last year.

Photographs

The reference book publishes seven photographs of Chinese built aircraft and describes ten in addition to the MIG-17.

Some of these are: The Antonov AN-2, a general purpose biplane, used for agricultural work, aerial survey, photography and general transport.

The Yak-18 two seater trainer assembled in China from Russian components with the engine built locally.

The Peking No. 1, a small twin-engine "fighter" aircraft to carry a crew of two, eight passengers, and capable of 180 miles an hour. It was built in 100 days at the Institute of Aeronautical Engineering, Peking.

Trainer

A two-seater jet training aircraft similar to the Russian MIG-15 UTI and claimed to have a top speed of 400 mph and a ceiling of 45,000 feet.

In a preface to its fifth edition "Jane's" comments: "The aircraft and Aero engine industries of the great powers still depend very largely on military orders for their existence although there would seem to be some hope for the continuation of this state of affairs for the future."

"Although it is unlikely that the manned military aircraft will ever be completely replaced by the missile, the number and type of specialized aircraft needed by the major air forces are likely to decline in the years to come."—Reuter.

Director Suing Film Company

Los Angeles, Dec. 15.
Film Director Josef Von Sternberg charged in a US\$1,000,000 lawsuit today that the movie "The Blue Angel" is a travesty on one he did with the same title starring Marlene Dietrich 30 years ago.

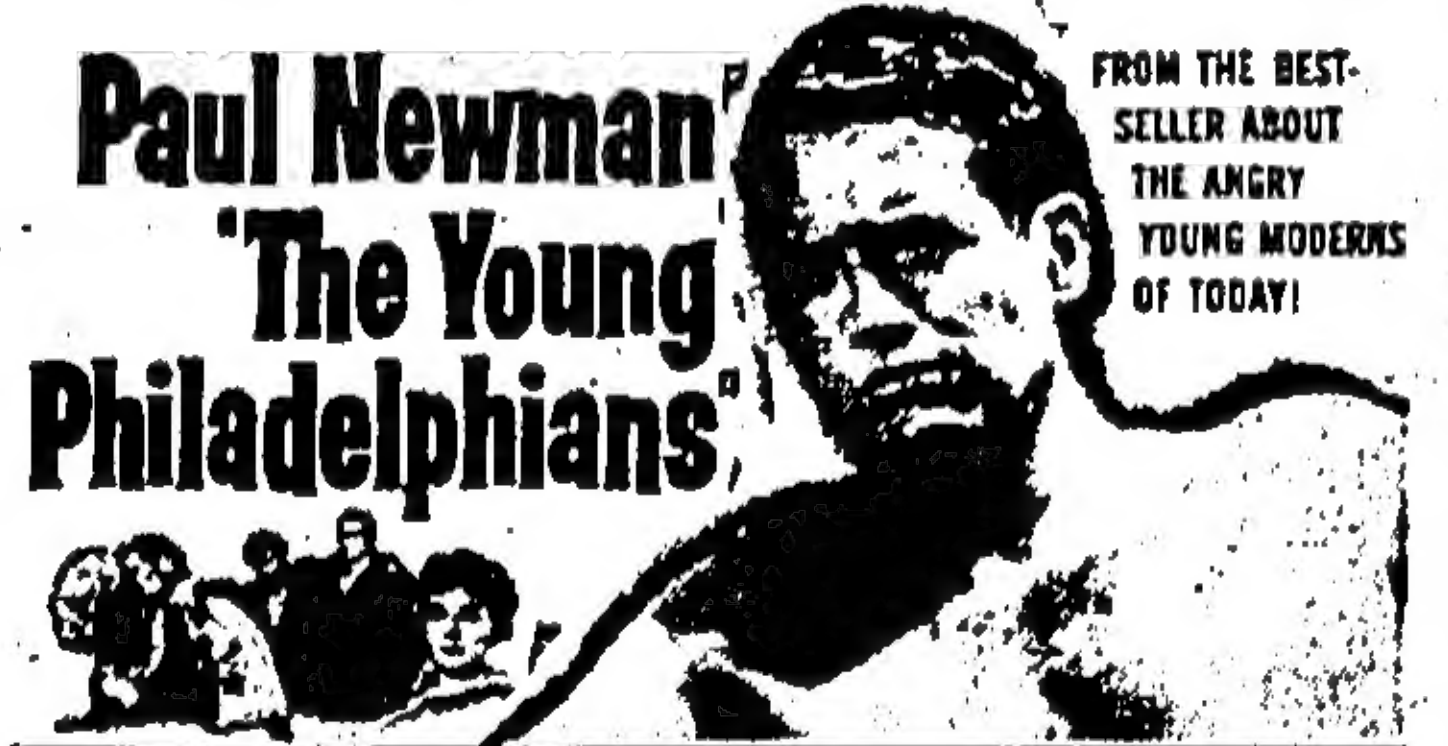
He asserted that the new "Blue Angel" picture, starring May Britt, is a misappropriation of his movie.

He also charged that the new "Blue Angel" is "an inferior motion picture" and "deforms and debases" the original movie.

His suit is directed against 20th Century Fox Film Corporation, New American Library of World Literature Inc., New York publisher Farrar, Straus and Cudahy Inc., and Wirt Williams.—AP.

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STARTING TO-MORROW



THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES

Mr K Says Situation Improving

Moscow, Dec. 15.
Mr Nikita Khrushchev was quoted here as saying today that the international situation was improving.

Mr Louis Goldblatt, Secretary-Treasurer of the Pacific Coast International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, who heads a union delegation which has had a three week tour of the Soviet Union, told a press conference today Mr Khrushchev had expressed this view during a "friendly talk" with the delegation in the Kremlin.

Thus, reporting the press conference, quoted Mr Goldblatt as saying Mr Khrushchev had expressed full confidence in socialism's ability to surpass capitalism.

On disarmament, Mr Khrushchev had emphasized that arms production could be replaced by peacetime production and that Soviet orders would provide a way out in such circumstances, Mr Goldblatt said.—Reuter.

Police Seek Drunk Driver, Bogus Doctor

London, Dec. 15.
Police were today seeking a motorist arrested on a drink charge and a bogus doctor who declared him capable of driving.

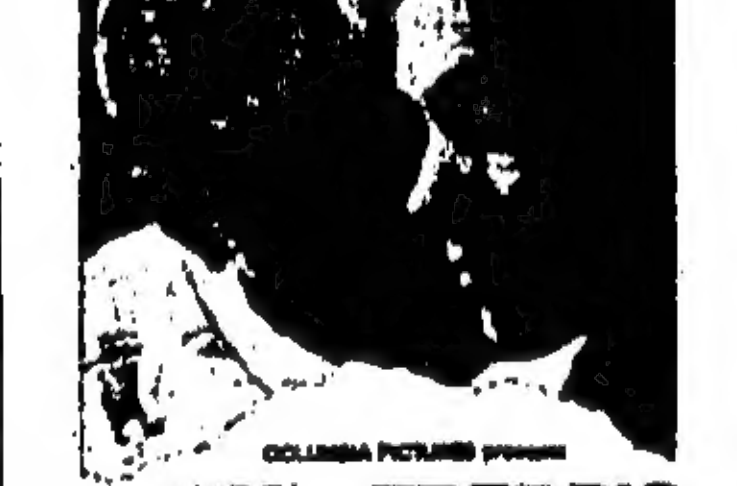
The motorist was picked up in suburban Barnes, taken to a Police Station and pronounced unfit to drive by a Police surgeon.

He exercised his right to call his own doctor who arrived and said the man was fit to drive. The man was bailed and cannot now be traced.

Police have discovered that the motorist was wanted for other offences and the "doctor" is not listed in any medical directory.—China Mail Special.

STATE

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"Well what the heck's a dressing-table for?"

As the summit talks near... a disturbing appraisal of Western defence SPLITTING APART AT THE SEAMS

THAT'S THE LATEST JUDGMENT ABOUT NATO

By PAUL JOHNSON

IS NATO disintegrating? This is the question being asked by military men of many nations on the eve of the Western Summit. Not only has NATO failed to reach the target figures laid down as the absolute minimum by its policy planners, but there is a real possibility that its existing forces, small as they are, will be further eroded in the near future.

At Lisbon, in 1952, the target for the European theatre was set at between 65 and 95 divisions, with air power of corresponding magnitude. Two years later it was realised that there was not the slightest possibility of assembling such forces, and the figure was scaled down to 30, on condition that these divisions were gradually "nuclearised."

General Norstad, the Supreme Commander, has repeatedly stated that any serious shortfall below this figure would be disastrous.

Yet what is the position today? He commands a mere 16 combat-ready

divisions—five from the USA, two and half British, five German, one each from France, Belgium and the Netherlands, plus a Canadian brigade.

Moreover, combat-ready is really a euphemism. Very few of the German troops are fully trained. The British divisions are 40 per cent below strength.

And one of Norstad's deputies recently described the Benelux contingents as worthless.

5m. bogus notes are kept in U.S. vault

FIVE million dollars in paper money is kept securely locked behind heavy steel doors in a vault in the United States Treasury Building here—yet all the money is worthless.

This is what Treasury experts call the "funny money room" of the counterfeit section of the U.S. Secret Service.

Samples of every counterfeit currency ever picked up by the Treasury agents are kept in a locked file in this room.

Before the civil war the samples include some three-dollar bills which are counterfeit of money issued by state banks before the American civil war.

It was these "funny money" items which led to the expression "as phony as a three-dollar bill."

Millions of dollars of counterfeit currency uncovered by Treasury agents in recent years are kept in vaults lining one wall of the room.

The Secret Service keeps this "funny money" for five years on

the chance it may be required as evidence in court.

Kept for two years

If the Service is certain the bills will never be needed as evidence, it keeps them for two years before they are bundled up and delivered to the Treasury Department's official "destruction committee."

The bogus money is then taken to the Naval Weapons Plant, where it is burned.

The Secret Service uses its counterfeit filing system to check whether new "bogus bills" are copies of earlier fakes.

Its files also help citizens who discover hidden treasures of old currency in attics, trunks and secret storage places.

Recently, bills were uncovered after half a century. They were fakes. On file were their duplicates seized by agents decades ago.

—(London Express Service).

Blackmail

Nor is this all. This year, in default of a reply to his memorandum to Eisenhower calling for a bigger say-so in NATO decisions, General de Gaulle removed the powerful French fleet from the Mediterranean command and forced the Americans to withdraw their tactical bomber forces from France.

He is likely to take still sterner measures unless—and this seems improbable—he gets satisfaction.

The basis of NATO's infra-structure—its supply and communications system—is in France giving de Gaulle infinite opportunities for blackmail.

France's claims are not the only threat to the

Anglo-U.S. control of NATO. As we progress into the 1960s, Germany's demand for a bigger say in policy will grow ever more insistent.

Already, with the appointment of General Speidel as Central Europe commander, they have seized the key army post.

In July, Speidel replaced Britain's Major-General Thompson by another German, General Wirsing, as Operations Chief on his staff. Now the Germans are pressing for the removal of General Sir Dudley Ward, commander of NATO Army Group North, and his replacement by a German.

They are also, in league with the French, conspiring to oust General Sir Richard Gale, Norstad's deputy.

Diminishing

How can these demands be resisted? Already the Germans supply more troops to NATO than any other nation except the United States. By the mid-1960s, with 12 whole divisions, they will outnumber all other NATO powers on the ground.

And, with their target of 1,000 front-line aircraft, they will be second only to the U.S.A. in the air.

The rise of German hegemony in NATO is linked to an even more vital problem: the type of war NATO intends to wage in the event of Soviet aggression.

In Britain and the USA the number of those who believe that a Soviet probe in Europe should evoke strategic nuclear retaliation is steadily diminishing.

Admiral Charles Brown, NATO Commander in Southern Europe, has stated flatly: "I would not recommend the use of any atomic weapons, however small, when both sides have the power to destroy the world."

The British—despite the grandiloquent phrase of the

Sandys 1958 White Paper—now hold the same view. Mr. Macmillan is fond of repeating: "I cannot envisage any circumstances in which I would go to the Queen and say, 'Ma'am, the time has come for your subjects to commit suicide.'"

Indeed, the Sandys theory is now defended for purely financial reasons.

It should be possible—and the latest publication of the Army League* argues this strongly—for NATO's forces to contain a Soviet thrust using only conventional weapons.

The risks

But it is at this point that the German strategists come in. By ruling out massive retaliation, they argue, the risks of a conventional war fought on German territory vastly increase.

We lose, they say, whatever happens. Therefore it is essential to our national interest to make it clear that we will use nuclear weapons right from the start.

Had the original proposal to equip the new German Army with only conventional, short-range weapons been carried out, the risk would not be grave. Unfortunately the Germans are being nuclearised too. German troops are already training in the U.S.A. in the use of nuclear weapons.

In July, the first U.S.-built Matador rockets, with a range of 850 miles, were handed over to Germany. For the moment, their nuclear warheads will be retained in U.S. custody.

But Germany already has a stake in the French nuclear weapons programme, and the time must inevitably come when she disposes of warheads of her own. The Germans will then be in a position to dictate the firepower level of any clash in Europe.

This is the impasse in which Britain and the U.S. find themselves. No wonder they are now searching for a political solution, and treading gingerly along the path to disarmament.

—(London Express Service).

* The British Army in the Nuclear Age. 2/6.

NOW ON TO THE BOMB

From Sydney Smith

Colomb-Bechar. A LONG Atom Bomb Road—the Sahara desert route to de Gaulle's prestige explosion—I watched a French missile streaking for 50 miles the other night. It ended within 10 yards of its target.

Earlier I watched a guided air-to-air rocket streak across the deep blue Sahara sky at two and a half times the speed of sound, 30,000 ft. up.

Both these demonstrations were technically top secret. I wasn't allowed to see exactly how the rockets were guided, nor to know their exact force or speed.

France is carrying out these kinds of tests seven days and seven nights a week in the most concentrated programme of top secret experiments ever held.

Like the de Gaulle A-bomb they belong to the prestige programme which is intended to put France back among the ruling nations.

PRECIOUS

It is not a programme based simply on publicity. I have had to fight and argue for weeks to be allowed to go anywhere near this tremendous mushrooming scheme by which the general plans to restore his country to the councils of world leadership.

Without the kind of rocket tests which are going on around Colomb-Bechar, an atomic explosive isn't much use. The rockets are the vehicles of delivery.

And just how capable France is of using those vehicles I can tell you in the words of a senior officer of the top-secret Colomb-Bechar rocket base:

"We are now firing—on tests of course—at the rate of 900 to 1,000 rockets of all kinds a year. By this time next year our capacity will be 2,000 to 3,000 rockets a year."

At this moment we have 30 different kinds of rockets being tested. We have a much greater number of control instruments under test.

Our photographic department develops and prints just over 400 miles of film a day. In a year, we shall easily double that figure next year.

I watched the air-to-air firing of a guided rocket from the roof of a control post at the base.

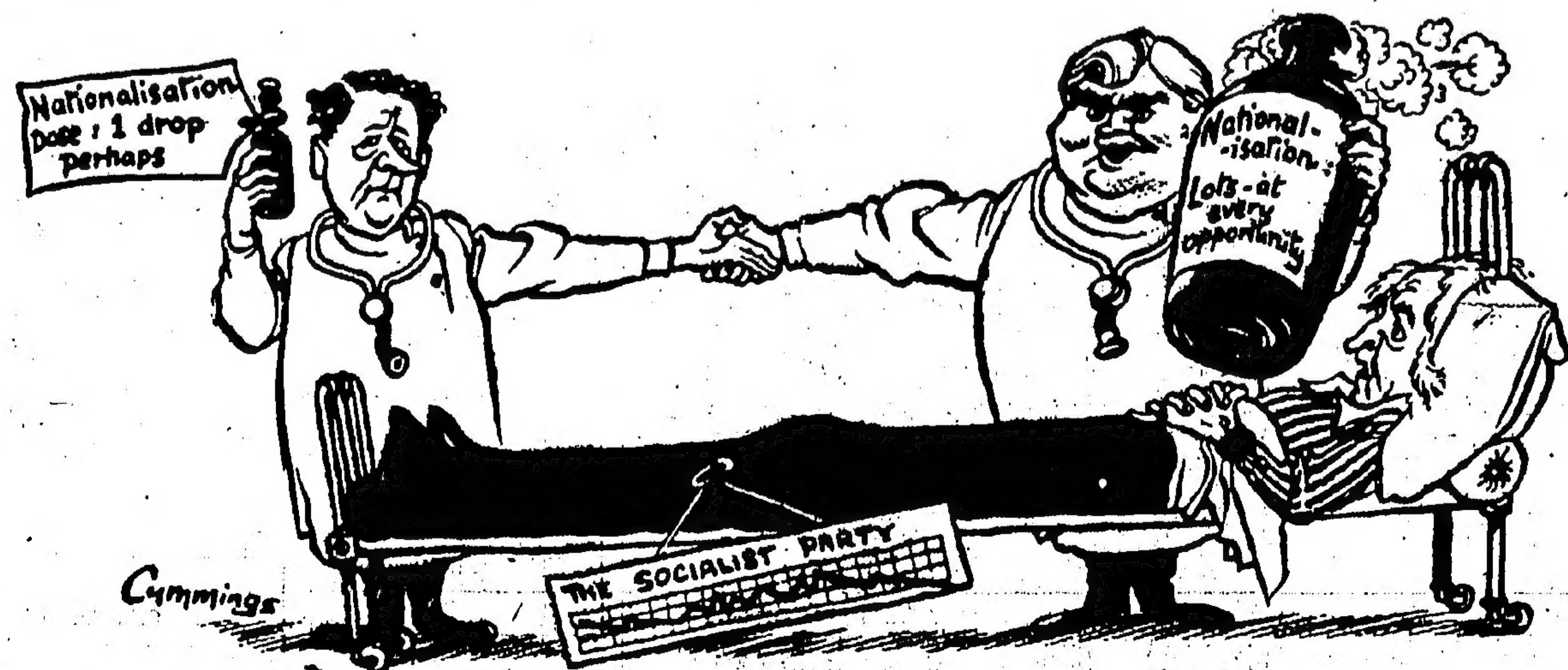
Down below were four portable rocket-launching ramps, and a hangar full of rockets.

The newest rocket of them all, the CTM, more than two and a half times supersonic, is Colomb-Bechar's most precious baby. It has been brought to perfection here.

And Britain is buying it to transform it into a pitiless reconnaissance plane with a radius of action of 100 miles from its ground controller.

I am handing even further south—towards the bomb—to see just how lonely you can get.

—(London Express Service).



"But we do agree—we both believe in the same medicine."

London Express Service

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AMONTILLADO
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Taylor's London Dry
AQUAVIT

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CARPANO (sweet)
PUNTE MES (bitter)
BOSCA (sweet & dry)

Vodka
WOLFSCHMIDT
Rum
CAPTAIN MORGAN

Brandy
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FRENCH CLUB ★★
DORVILLE'S ★★

Liebfraumilch
BLUE NUN

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A. BICHOT
OGIER FILS

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WOMANSENSE

POLITICAL HOSTESSES

The shy Mrs. Amery enjoys her 'job'

'Not at first glance the sort of woman who would be at ease in the taxing role of political hostess'

MRS. JULIAN AMERY

by JOCASTA INNES



JACOBY on BRIDGE

TODAY'S hand which was sent me by John Wain of Greensburg, Pa., might well be called the little slam that wasn't.

Since the heart and spade trumps both lose and the clubs don't break six no-trump must be set unless East is kind enough to open a heart. Six clubs must also go down. It appears that the trick is a nice easy contract but look what happens if West opens a

NORTH (D)			
♠	Q87		
♥	AQ		
♦	AJ		
♣	AKQ54		
WEST			
♠	K52		
♥	J1082		
♦	108754		
♣	9		
EAST			
♠	43		
♥	K974		
♦	932		
♣	J1072		
SOUTH			
♠	AJ1085		
♥	653		
♦	KQ6		
♣	83		
Both vulnerable			
North	East	South	West
2♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♠	Pass	6♠	Pass
Opening lead—♥J			

heart. South goes up with dummy's ace and takes three rounds of diamonds in order to get rid of dummy's queen of hearts. Now, suppose he ruffs a heart and leads dummy's queen of spades. West refuses to win the trick. Even looking at all the cards, South can't avoid the loss of a trump and a heart.

Suppose South goes to dummy with a club and leads the spade queen. This time West wins and leads the suit back. If South ruffs a heart, he can't get out of dummy to draw the last trump. If South draws trumps, he can only get one heart cleared.

Of course, there is one slam in the hand. If North plays the six spades he will wrap it up.

♥♦CARD SENSE♦♥

Q—The bidding has been:
West North East South
1♠ Double Pass 1♠
2♠ Pass Pass 2♠
Pass 2♥ Pass ?

You, South, hold:
♠743 ♣54 ♦AK32 ♣76
What do you do?
A—Pass. Your partner is showing a five-card heart suit but you are not strong enough to raise him.

TODAY'S QUESTION
You hold the same hand and your partner has bid two hearts directly over West's two-club bid. What do you do now?
Answer Tomorrow

LADY LUCK

your CHINA MAIL horoscope

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19): When asking a friend for what seems to you a small favor, don't forget that it may mean a lot of trouble to him.

PISCES (February 20-March 20): Having found a very reliable subordinate, you ought to give him sufficient scope to work on his own initiative.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): When discussing family affairs with an outsider, don't make disclosures you will afterwards regret.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may be wasting your time and energy on a trifle which is really not worth all the effort.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Since you owe your position and progress to your own efforts, you don't have to accept criticism from casual acquaintances.

CANCER (June 22-July 21): Some people like to give advice about things of which they know little or nothing. You can listen without having to act upon it.

LEO (July 22-August 21): Don't be discouraged just because you have failed to

change a certain person's attitude towards you. You can do very well without his approval.

VIRGO (August 22-September 22): A slight financial loss on one transaction will soon be compensated by a profit on another.

LIBRA (September 23-October 22): Don't boast about some minor talent, as it may be difficult to live up to your overstatement.

SCORPIO (October 23-November 21): The next few days will be full of surprises for you by way of early Christmas gifts and unexpected invitations.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21): Don't magnify your troubles in conversation with others, as they may not believe you when you really need their help.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20): After a period of little or no social activity you will soon get into your stride again.

YOUR LUCKY CARD: If this is your birthday, your lucky card, no matter what game you may be playing, ought to be the SEVEN OF SPADES.

HER face, aristocratic, pale with a high serene forehead, is beautiful. Her clothes tend to be whatever comes to hand and are comfortable. Her black cardigan, I noticed, had a button missing. But whatever she wears, she has, like her father, the knack of looking distinguished, exactly right. In conversation she talks hesitantly. One of the most public-

LIKE FATHER

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CHILDREN'S CORNER

Funny Sort of Voices

—It Turns Out They Belong to the Vegetables—

By MAX TRELL

"It's a curious thing," said General Tin, the Tin Soldier, to all his friends in the Playroom, "but I'm sure there are some folks living in the vegetable bin."

Everyone was surprised to hear this. "It's a very small bin," said Hanid, the Shadow Girl with the Turned-About Name.

"There's nobody in that bin," said Hiawatha, the Small-Sized Wooden Indian. "I just looked."

"A vegetable bin is for vegetables," said Mr. Lunch.

"There's nothing in that bin except potatoes and onions and peas and beans and a head of cabbage and a bunch of radishes."

"Maybe so, maybe so," said General Tin. "But last night while I was standing here and all of you were fast asleep, and the house was dark and nobody was moving around—all of a sudden I heard some voices—funny sort of voices."

What He Means
Everyone in the room now wanted to know what General Tin meant by "funny sort of voices."

"Well," said General Tin, "there was a round potato-y kind of voice. I heard it saying, 'I don't like being in this bin. It's been a week now since I came up from the ground. I'd like to get out and see a bit of the world.'"

"Don't be impatient," said another voice that sounded cabbage-y. "I heard the Lady of the House saying to her next-door neighbour that she couldn't make up her mind whether to bake you or boil you or mash you or cut you up in little pieces and fry you."

Served With Steak
"But she said that what-over she decided to do with you, she was absolutely sure that she was going to serve you with a big thick steak when her guests come tomorrow."

"Wonderful! Wonderful!" exclaimed the potato-y voice.

"And what about me?" cried a chorus of several voices.

Teddy asked General Tin what kind of voices they were. "I mean," he said, "were they potato-y or cabbage-y or what?"

Tomato-y Voices
"They were tomato-y," said General Tin.

"Aren't we going to be served tomorrow?" the tomato-y voices asked.

"Yes, indeed," said the cabbage-y voice. "The Lady of the House talked about you red-checked boys and girls, too."

"Hurry!" shouted the chorus of tomato-y voices. "Are we going to be baked or boiled or mashed or cut up in little pieces and fried?"

"Neither," replied the cabbage-y voice. "You're going to be sliced and put in a salad."

"Wonderful! Wonderful!" cried the tomato-y voices.

Bunch Of Radishes
"Then," said General Tin, "a whole bunch of radish-y voices asked: 'What about us?'"

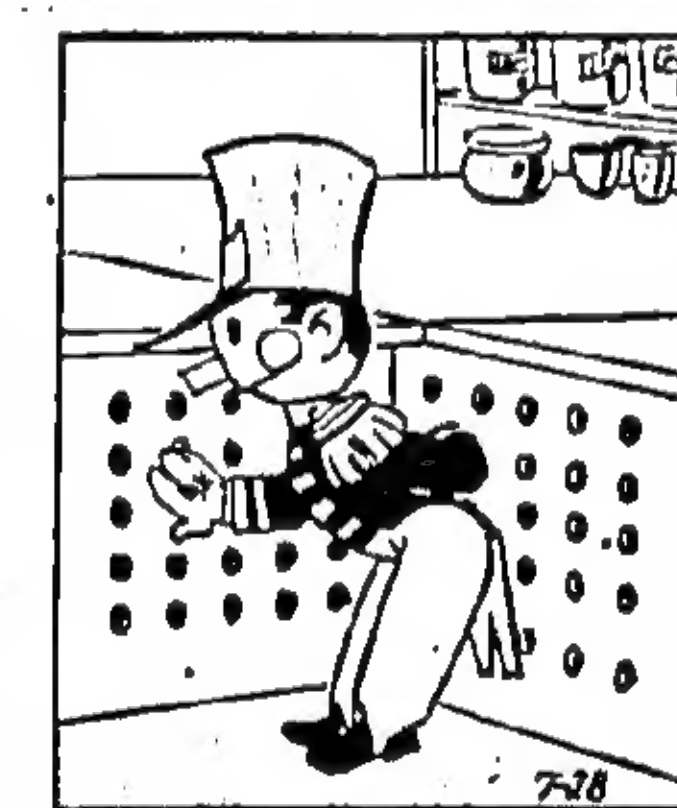
"Yes, you're going to be served, too," said the cabbage-y voice.

"Wonderful! Wonderful!" cried the chorus of radish-y voices.

"Are we going to be baked, are we going to be boiled, are we going to be mashed, are we going to be cut up in small pieces and fried, or are we going to be cut in thin slices and put in a salad?"

Just As You Are
"My little friends," said the cabbage-y voice, "you're going out just as you are. No one is going to do a single thing to you except hold you under the cold water and wash you so that you look pink and fresh and appetizing."

"Why, General Tin," said Hanid at this moment, "the folks you thought were living in the vegetable bin were the tomatoes, the cabbage and the bunch of pink, fresh, appetizing little radishes."



General Tin heard voices from the vegetable bin.

ing to be cut in thin slices and put in a salad?

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YOU'RE ENGAGED ... HARD LUCK!

THE girl down the road has just become engaged to be married. We all went along to celebrate, to drink a cocktail, to offer a small present for the "bottom drawer," to say "Congratulations" to the fiance, and "Best Wishes" to the fiancée.

Which is what everyone does, the world over, when a young couple become engaged. But I think that the bride-to-be needs a lot more than just best wishes. It would be far more honest if the celebrators said "Good luck, you poor thing!" Because although I'm all for happy marriages, I don't think engagements are much fun.

Gloria Gordon's COLUMN

Q? Q? Q? Q? Q? Q?

If YOU'VE got a newly-engaged lassie down your road, just put these questions to her—after she's been engaged for about a month.

Q. Do you ever wake up in the morning and think: "Good heavens! What have I done?"

Q. Do you often cry, for no reason at all?

Q. Do you have occasional doubts as to whether you're doing the right thing?

Q. Do you find—be honest!—an engagement a frustrating thing?

Q. When house-hunting, furniture-buying, wallpapering, painting and generally working like a Trojan, do you get bad-tempered with your fiancé?

Last Q. Do you sometimes feel completely indifferent to your fiancé?

UNSETTLING

If she answers "yes" to all six questions, don't be surprised. And tell her not to worry. She's being perfectly normal. And she's likely to get worse until she's better, which will be when the wedding bells peal.

MEN do all the worrying, have all the nerves, get ill, wait to run a mile—BEFORE they've proposed.

WOMEN behave in exactly the same way—AFTER they've accepted.

Engagements are unsettling times. Mothers become unsettled. Fathers become unsettled. How can the young couple stay calm, with all this unsettling going on?

During the courtship there are moonlight dances, parties, outings. After the engagement there is house or flat-hunting; money-worrying; house or flat cleaning; house or flat painting; decorating and furnishing. Not to mention wedding of garden plots, sewing of trousseau clothes, hemming and frilling of YARDS of curtains.

FUN! Hal But never mind. As I told the girl down the road, everything will be all right. Once she's married!



HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Do not use soap when cleaning windows because it leaves a film on the glass. Instead, use plain water or acid vinegar, ammonia, washing soda, alcohol, kerosene or borax to wash water.

To prevent browned bread-crumbs going sour in a jar leave them spread out to dry after baking and rolling.

Fat will not splash if a little cooking salt is sprinkled in the pan when frying.

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Another Asian Record At SEAP Games

THAILAND'S SUDHI MANYAGAS
SETS NEW TIME OF 21.5 SECS
IN THE 200 METRES

Bangkok, Dec. 15.

Burma's refusal to play their volleyball match against Thailand and a free-for-all fight between Malayan and Vietnamese footballers marred the South East Asia Peninsula Games here today.

The highlight of the day's programme was the breaking of another Asian Games record by Thailand's star athlete Sudhi Manyagas in the men's 200-metre sprint.

He ran the distance in 21.5 seconds, beating by one second the Asian record established by M. Sharif Butt of Pakistan and Milka Singa of India.

Sudhi had already yesterday established a new Asian record in the 100 metres, sprinting in 10.4 seconds, bettering the 1954 Asian Games record of 10.6 seconds set by A. Khaliq of Pakistan in Manila.

Burma's refusal today to play against Thailand in the volleyball competition surprised organisers of the Games. The Burmese insisted that a neutral referee be appointed instead of a Thai official.

Heated Arguments

They claimed their refusal followed what they considered to be "many doubtful decisions" by a Thai referee in yesterday's volleyball match between Thailand and Vietnam.

After heated arguments, it was decided to play the game tomorrow after both sides were drawn to select between a Thai or Burmese referee.

In the football tournament, Malaya beat Vietnam by two goals to one but the game was spoilt by rough tactics followed by a free-for-all between players of the two teams.

Two players, one from each side, were sent off the field.

The Malayan and Vietnamese opened their match with a display of superb ball-control and skilful dribbling. But after 30 minutes when the score was 1-1, the game deteriorated into rough play.

Thailand, the host country, had another successful day today capturing six gold medals, four silver and three bronze.

Medal Standings

Burma was the second most successful country with three gold medals, six silver and three bronze, followed by Malaya with two, five and nil, Singapore two, nil and four, Vietnam one, nil and three and Laos nil.

The totals to date are: Thailand 18 gold, 17 silver and 11 bronze; Burma eight, nine and six; Malaya seven, 10 and five; Singapore five, three and nine; Vietnam two, two and four and Laos nil.

On the basis of five points for gold, three for silver and one for bronze, Thailand has 182 points, Burma 73, Malaya 70, Singapore 43, Vietnam 20 and Laos nil.

Other results today were:

Athletics

Pole Vault

1. A. Pal Singh, Singapore, 3.82 metres.

2. See Mta, Burma, and C. Perera, Malaya.

Weightlifting

Middleweight

1. Maung Bu, Burma, 790 pounds.

2. Santana Sirisingh, Thailand.

3. Mya Thien, Burma.

Heavyweight

1. Kwan Keng-lam, Malaya, 780 pounds.

2. Vinol, Nontharwin, Thailand, 740.

3. Yeu Gum-cheong, Singapore.

Tennis

Women's Doubles Final

Thailand's Sanguan Sutecharitkul and Pannas Sukawat beat Malaya's Katherine Leong and Anna Han, 6-2, 6-1.

Table Tennis

The strong Vietnamese table tennis team won the gold medal today when it beat Thailand in an exciting contest.

The experienced Vietnamese players won the event by five games to one but each match was a hard fought one.

The best among the visitors was Huynh Van Ngoc who beat Thai champion Sompao in a close tussle, 21-19, 21-19. Ngoc displayed a strong forehand and was accurate with his shots.

The less experienced Thai players, none of whom played in international games before, made some nervous mistakes but gained plenty of match experience.

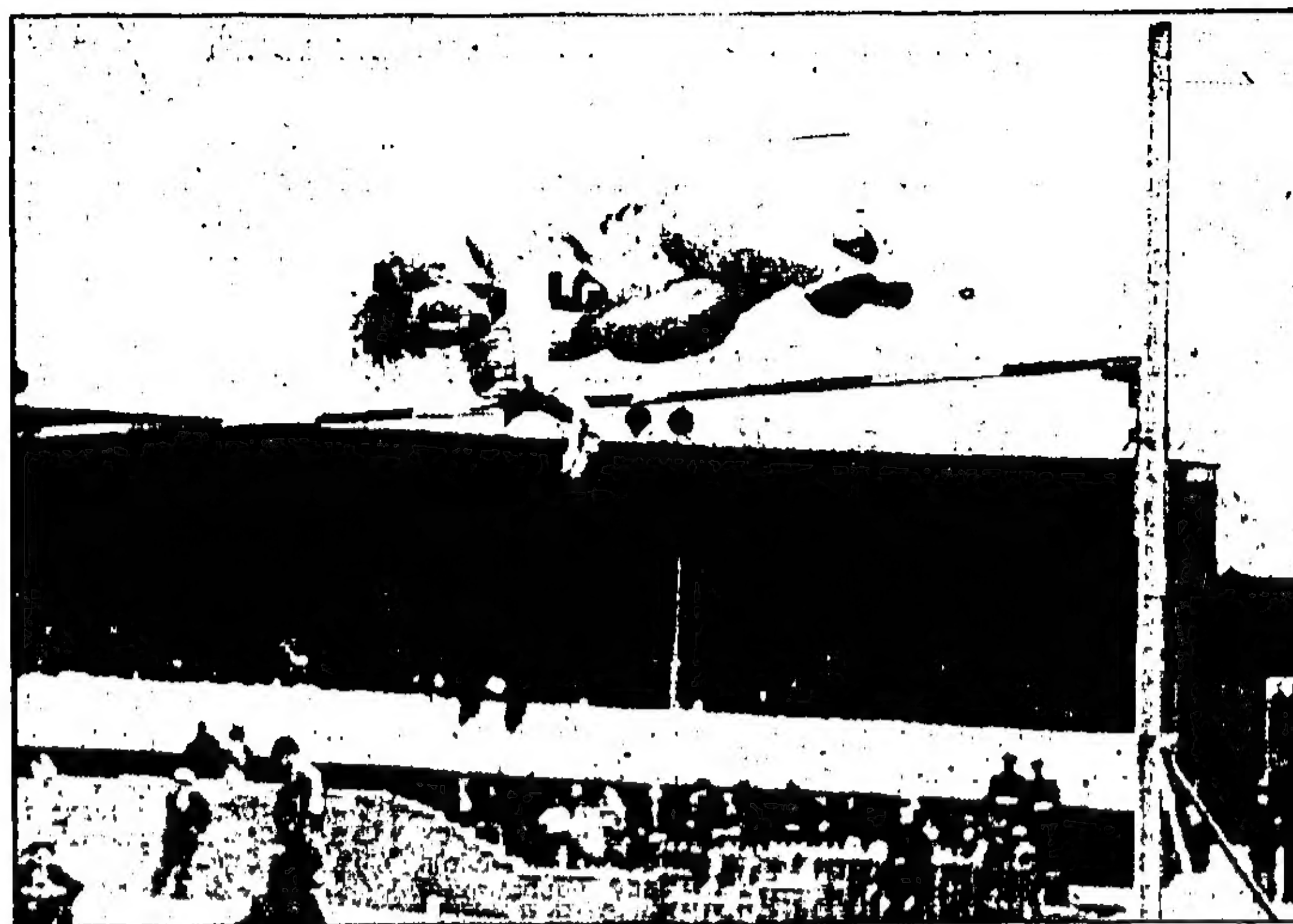
Burma, which was to compete in the event, did not show up.

Shooting

Thailand took the first two places in today's free and small-bore rifle shooting events. The third place went to Vietnam.

Thailand's Krisda scored a total of 1,099 points followed by compatriot Charun with 999 and Vy Van Xau of Vietnam with 819.—Reuters, UPI and AFP.

SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR



Britain's best bet for a woman's gold medal at next year's Olympics is a 10-year-old all-rounder who is British champion at long jump and 80 metres hurdles, was AAA runner-up in the high jump, and is in the international class in the sprint and Pentathlon events.

She is Mary Denise Signal, postal clerk in a brewery firm, who last week was voted Sportswoman of the Year. In Moscow in September she won the hurdles and came third in the high jump to be officially named the best girl athlete of the match. In Rome in October at an 18-nation international meeting she won the hurdles, the 100 metres and was again third in the high jump. Photo shows all-rounder Mary in action. — London Express photo.

Malayan Cricketers Leave

The Malayan cricket team left by air this morning for Malaya after a successful tour here.

In addition to winning the Interport match against Hong Kong, they had also won all their other three matches against the Combined Civilian, the President's XI and the Combined Services.

Last night they were entertained to a farewell dinner by the Malayan Association at Duddell Street.

Billy Knight To Play In India

London, Dec. 15. Billy Knight, a British Davis Cup player, has been nominated by the Lawn Tennis Association to represent Great Britain in the Asian championships at Calcutta from December 21 to January 3.

The National Championships of India at Delhi on January 4 to 10, it was announced here today.—AFP.

Flash Elorde Wins Non-Title Bout

Manila, Dec. 15. Orient flyweight champion Flash Elorde toyed with Bert Somodio for ten rounds to win a one-sided unanimous decision over the Philippines No. 1 lightweight contender here tonight.

Elorde weighed 135½ and Somodio 133½ pounds for the non-title bout.—AP.

Spectators In A Fight At Patterson's Exhibition Match

Montreal, Dec. 15. A ring-side battle, apparently touched off by a racial issue, involved about 12 spectators at Floyd Patterson's exhibition boxing match on Monday night.

Some of the participants came out with minor cuts and bruises. There were no serious injuries as police quickly broke up the brawl.

TWO PENTANGULAR RUGBY MATCHES TONIGHT

Club Take On Garrison

In One Of Tournament's Major Clashes

By PAK LO

Tonight rugby fans in large numbers are expected to wend their way to the Club ground to see one of the major clashes of the Pentangular Tournament, when Club, at 7.15 p.m. under the floodlights, face one of their top rivals for the Pentangular honours, the Hongkong and Kowloon Garrison.

In the other Pentangular earlier in the evening the RAF are against the Police at 6.00 p.m. and this too should be a close and exciting match.

Earlier in the afternoon the 49 Field Regiment are hosts to the RASC out at San Wai at 3.15 p.m.

Club, who start as obvious favourites in their match tonight, will have to pull out all the stops against the Army team, for Club have been weakened by injuries, and the departure of some of their players.

One Big Advantage

However, the Club pack is still very strong, and should gain a decided advantage in the scrums and loose, though Club has yet to show it can be effective in the lineouts against strong opposition.

Club have, however, one big advantage in that they have the much superior halves, with

Johnson, who has shown a vast improvement since the beginning of the season, sure to star in breaks through the centre.

In their last game against the Tames on Saturday the Club were busy trying out all sorts of fancy moves, some of which may come to fruition tonight.

The Garrison have a good pair of halves too, but they are inclined to pull their three into the centre as they lie very close to the pack, and this in tonight's game could be a fatal error, for with Russell Brown returning to the Club wing, the Club have a very fast and strong attack.

The Garrison three are liable also to find themselves in trouble from the fast-breaking Club wing forwards, and will probably be forced to kick for touch.

This sort of game is of no use to Garrison, for the Club pack should get sufficient of the ball even from the lineouts to

get their backs moving. Club have shown themselves this year experts in open play, and the Garrison have little hope of stopping them completely. The Club then, should win, albeit by a small margin.

Full Strength Team

In the other Pentangular game the Police are fielding a full strength team, and with RAF again hit by poaching the Police men should win this match.

Although they lost their last game on Saturday the Police showed that they had the potential, and with tonight's game meaning so much to their chances of their moving into prominence in the table they are unlikely to take things easy for a second.

If Police play the type of game they did against the Brigade, the RAF whose tackling is still too high, have no hope of victory.

In attack the RAF three can handle fairly well, though still inclined to balloon their passes, and their wings lack that little touch of "tiger" that adds those extra yards of penetration which make all the difference.

The Police have the heavier pack, which should dominate forward play to a great extent, and with the Police certain to play a wide open game the result should never be in doubt.

In the minor game in the afternoon, the RASC, have had little practice as a team, and 49 Field Regiment, while not an outstanding team, have quite a good pack, though their three are their weak link, and their halves have yet to settle down. But the Corps have a week pack with reasonable three, and with the Gunners getting a steady supply of the ball, the Corps do not appear to have much chance of winning this game.

Gilroy Elected Best Young British Boxer Of The Year

London, Dec. 15.

European, British and British Empire bantam-weight champion Freddie Gilroy of Northern Ireland was today elected best young British boxer of the year by the British Boxing Writers' Club.

Gilroy won all three of his titles this year, beating Scotland's Peter Keenan for the British and Empire crowns and Italy's Piero Rollo for the European championship.

During the year the Belfast boxer also defeated Al Asuncion of the Philippines and Italy's former world champion Mario Daga.

Gilroy, who will receive the Geoffrey Simpson Trophy at a banquet here on January 13, got the vote over three other unbeaten boxers — Brian Curvis and Phil Jones of Wales and Lenton Roy, Boston.

Gilroy is the second Northern Irishman to win the trophy. The first was another bantamweight from Belfast, John Kelly, who received it in 1953.—AFP.

Thailand Enters SEAP Games Football Final

Bangkok, Dec. 15.

Thailand qualified to meet Vietnam in the final of the SEAP football championship by beating Burma five goals to two after a one-all tie at half-time in the night game.

In beating Burma by a big margin Thailand hiked its goal average and surpassed Malaya who now has to be content with third place and the bronze medal.

The Thailand-Vietnam encounter will take place on Thursday just before the closing ceremony of the Games. The collapse of Burma, which although defeated had put up a plucky performance in earlier games, came as a surprise to the 20,000 fans who packed the floodlit National Stadium. But they expressed their approval of the local team by lusty cheers.

OPEN ACCOUNT

Burma looked set to beat Thailand when in the very first minute of the game left-half Kyawswa opened the account for his team. Fifteen minutes later, however, Thailand's left-winger Suchat landed a beautiful header to equalise.

End-to-end play continued until half-time with the score remaining one-all.

After the interval, however, the tide completely turned and Thailand was on top. They scored in the 10th minute of the half through right-half Chock Thai. In the 32nd minute through left-winger Suchat, one minute later through right-winger Annurat and in the 37th minute through right-winger Prasan who converted a free-kick.

Burma could reply with only one goal, scored in the 32nd minute through inside-right Aung Kyaw.—AFP.

Solomons To Give Johansson 'Firm Offer' Today

London, Dec. 15.

Promoter Jack Solomons said today he will meet world heavyweight boxing champion Ingemar Johansson in London on Wednesday and make him a "firm offer" for a little fight in Britain next May 31.

Solomons wants to match Johansson against British champion Henry Cooper at London's outdoor Wembley Stadium.

"We've worked out how much money we could pull in from the fight," the 59-year-old British promoter said.

"We shall show all the figures to Johansson and his adviser, Eddie Ahlquist, tomorrow. We shall also make a firm offer."

"But I don't say Johansson will be able to give us an immediate reply. So much depends on whether the Americans quickly can find a promoter acceptable to Johansson for a return bout in the United States against Floyd Patterson."—AP.

CHESS NEWS

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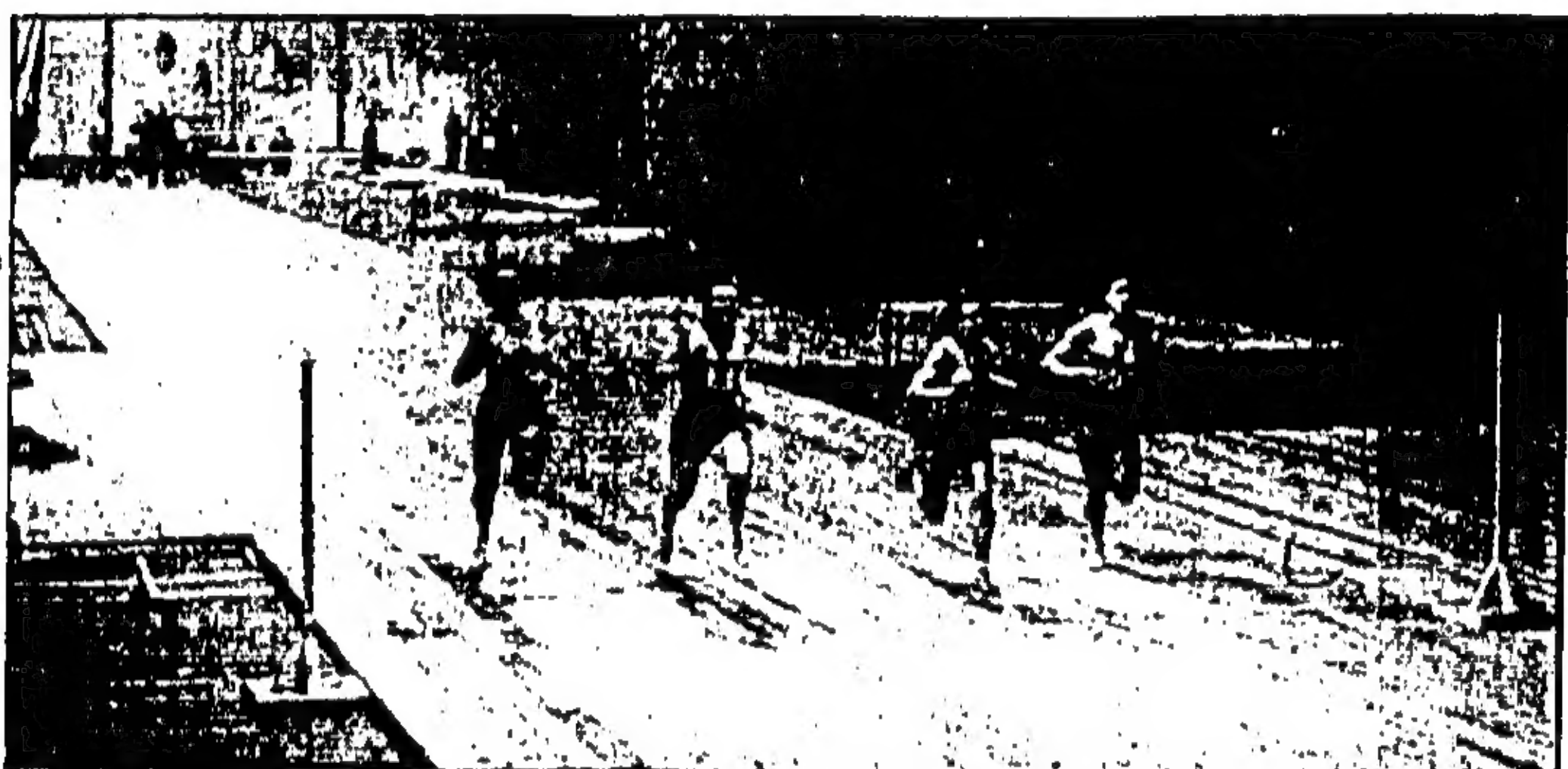


Although first favourites did not fare too well at the first day of the Hongkong Jockey Club's Fifth Race Meeting at Happy Valley last Saturday most of the second and third favourites obliged their supporters.

Above photo shows the finish of Race 5—the Hurst Park Handicap for Class 4 ponies over the distance of six furlongs—where the only major upset occurred. High Noon (No. 3), ridden by A. Ostroumoff, is seen finishing 3/4 length ahead of Jackpot (No. 4) in the time of 1 min 19.1 sec to pay a win dividend of \$37.40. In third place is King Rider, the top favourite (fourth from left).

At left, top favourite Sinclair (No. 10) with Robert Tsai up just manages to edge out House Top (fourth from left) and Belinda (No. 1) by half a length to win the last race of the afternoon—the Kempton Park Handicap for Class 4 ponies over one mile. House Top was second and Belinda third.

BELOW: In a dramatic finish on Monday, Malaya beat Hongkong in their three-day interport cricket match at the Hongkong Cricket Club by one wicket. A 62-run last-wicket partnership between S. Nagalah and G. Schubert gave them their win. Photo shows Hongkong's opening batsman G. T. Rowe being clean bowled by Cheah Teow-keat in Hongkong's first innings.—China Mail photos.



For the first time, Britain's Olympic athletes can prepare themselves for the Games during the winter without having their enthusiasm sapped by the weather. With the co-operation of the RAF, last week saw the first indoor athletics meeting held in Britain by the AAA at the RAF Station, Stanmore.

Two hangars had been turned over to the AAA, and though there is still no circular track, and no room for shot putt, there is a 78-yard straight course of pine boards for the sprinters and hurdles, and raised board runways for the jumpers.

Photo shows (from left to right) A. Parker (4th), A. Pover (2nd), M. Weston (1st—7.3 seconds), and D. Hyman (3rd) in the final of the women's 60 yards sprint.—Times photo.

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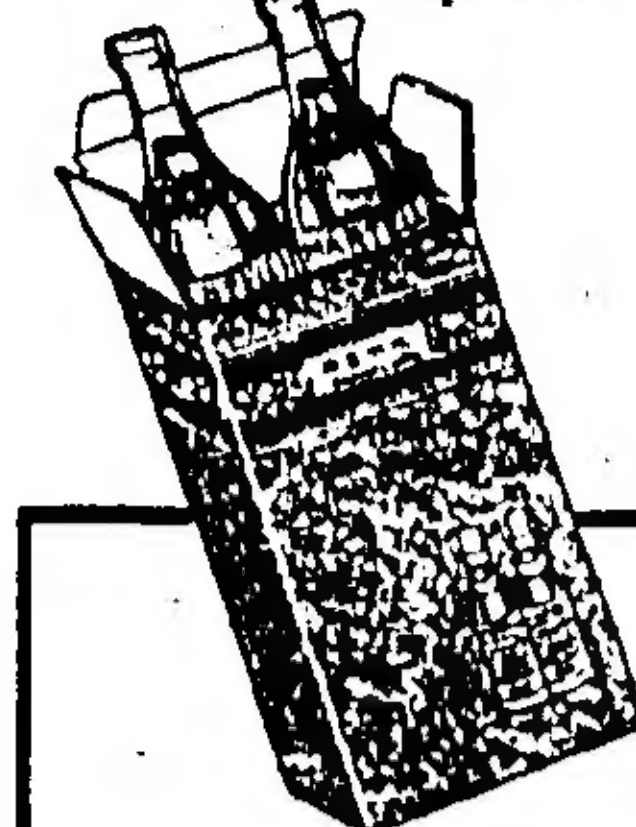
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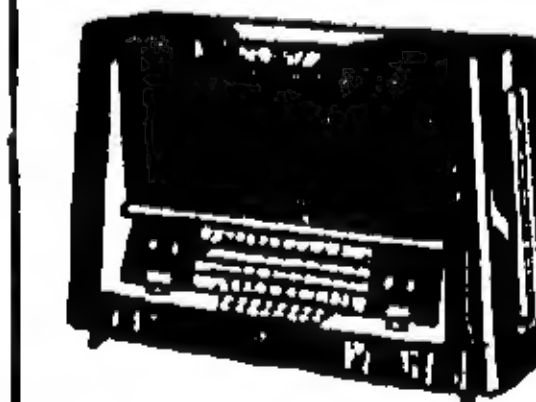
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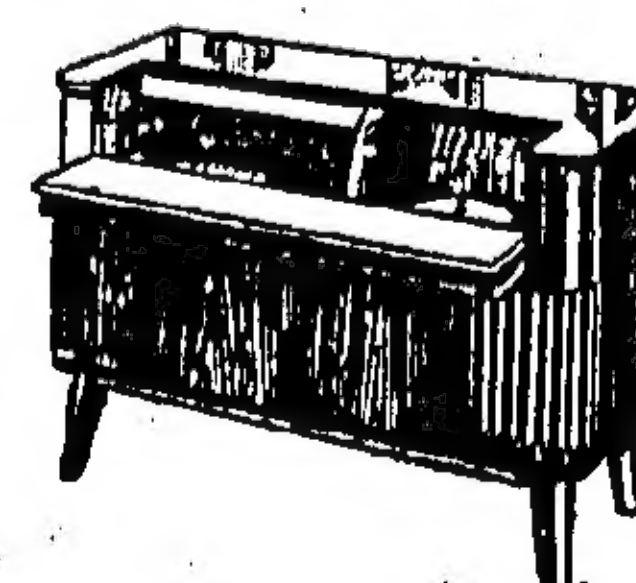


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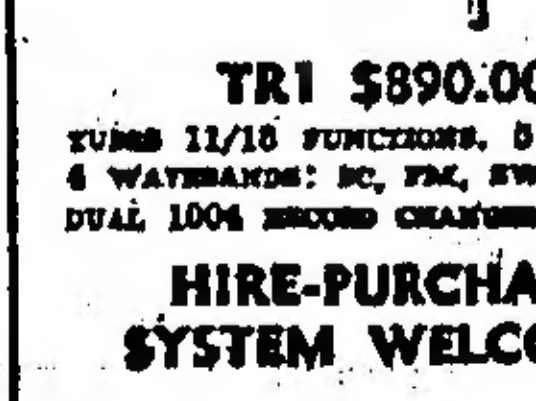
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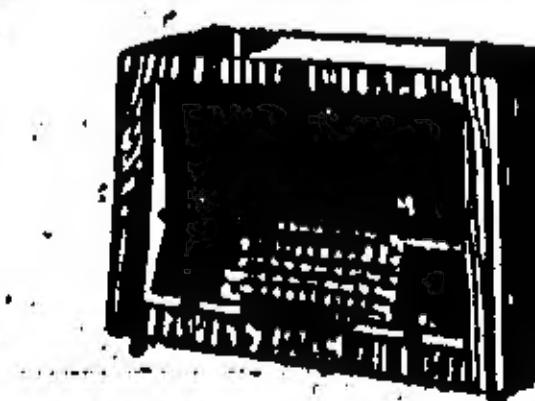
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Flory Van Donck, the well-known Belgian professional golfer is shown here at the top of his well controlled swing during an exhibition match at Fanning recently. Playing with fellow Belgian, Donald Swaelens, Donck beat Fanning professional Brian Hoggett and Korean professional Kim Hay-yuen by four and two over 36 holes. Donck's score was 144 for the 36 holes.—Photo by courtesy of Mr. H. A. Ooster.

